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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Events Scheduled Next Week for the Alaskan Way Viaduct Project and Seawall Project

Central Waterfront Surface Street Improvements Open House

Monday, June 17, 2002 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Open House 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Presentation, Questions and Answers Seattle Center Northwest Rooms, Rainier Room First Avenue North and Republican

Leadership Group

Tuesday, June 18, 2002 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Town Hall Seattle 1119 8th Avenue at Seneca

SEATTLE – An open house will be held next Monday, June 17th, to seek public input on surface street improvements for the central waterfront related to the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Project, sponsored by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the City of Seattle (City). Feedback from the public will be incorporated into the ongoing design process and additional public meetings on surface street options will be held in Fall 2002. The design plans being presented attempt to achieve multiple public purposes, including balancing local access versus through movement, strengthening community connections, and enhancing visual and open space qualities along the waterfront.

The project's Leadership Group will meet next Tuesday, June 18th. Co-chaired by Secretary Doug MacDonald and Mayor Greg Nickels, the Leadership Group will be briefed by staff on updated design plans, cost ranges for each of the plans, and potential construction phasing options. This information is intended to inform the Leadership Group about the latest project information in preparation for a recommendation by WSDOT and the City for a preferred plan in late July. The Leadership Group acts as a sounding board to the project and supplements broad public involvement activities taking place concurrently. Feedback from the public and Leadership Group will help shape future work on the design plans.

For more information about the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Project, visit WSDOT's online site: www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct or call the project hotline at 206-269-4421.

The public meeting location is accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring reasonable accommodation may request written materials in alternate formats, sign language interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodation by contacting Carol Hunter at 206-464-6231. Persons with hearing impairments may call Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service TT 1-800-833-6388; Tele-Braille 1-800-833-6385; Voice 1-800-833-6384, and ask to be connected to 206-389-3225.

WSDOT hereby gives public notice that it is the policy of the department to assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. Persons wishing information may call the Washington State Department of Transportation, Office of Equal Opportunity at 360-705-7098.